

Merrick County Board Minutes



January 24, 2017

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 9:07 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kucera, Weller, Kreachbaum, Carlson, Helgoth, Graves, and Wiegert present.

Deputy County Attorney Kunz was also present.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof by publications in the Republican Nonpareil and The Palmer Journal and on the Merrick County website. Proof of publication is filed in the Clerk's Office. Copies of the agenda were mailed to each Supervisor and kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Chairman Wiegert declared the meeting was preceded by publicized notice and having acknowledged and identified the location of the posting of the current copy of the Open Meetings Act, called the meeting to order and in open session at 9:07 a.m.

Moved Kucera, second Graves to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:07 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Agenda: Moved Kucera, second Weller to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Minutes: Moved Weller, second Carlson to approve the minutes of January 10, 2017 & January 13, 2017 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Meeting reports: Carlson & Graves attended the safety/security meeting; Carlson, Weller, & Wiegert attended the statewide radio meeting in Fullerton; Graves attended the hospital meeting and Senior Center meeting; Helgoth had a conference call with the Nebraska Community Partnership & Kucera attend the Mid Nebraska meeting in Kearney.

Official reports: Planning & Zoning Myers gave the Board a copy of the building permits; Sheriff Westman hired Reiny Dickhaut and he started Monday, January 23, 2017 and Chris Carlson's last day with the Sheriff's Office will be Wednesday, January 24, 2017 to take a job with Broken Bow Police Department for more money. Sheriff Westman gave the Board a copy of the Public Safety Communications Infrastructure & Dispatch Consolidation Assessment Proposal. Westman said there was a lot of interest from Boone County and Polk County but not in Nance County. Hall County's jail fees went up. Sheriff Westman suggested that some of the County Board attended the interlocal Emergency Management meeting on February 3, 2017 to discuss and see where Merrick County and the other Counties are in dispatching.

Hospital: Julie Murray told the Board that the Letter of Intent the Board signed would expire January 31, 2017 but the hospital would do an extension until March 31, 2017 if approved by the County Board. Moved Graves, second Carlson to approve signing an extension of the Letter of Intent with an expiration date of March 31, 2017. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Weed reports: Moved Carlson, second Kucera to approve and have the Chairman sign the year end reports of the Weed Superintendent and RESOLUTION 2017-3 authorizing Kevin Koziol as Weed Superintendent for Merrick County to make the findings described in Neb. Rev. Stat 2-995(1)(b) and to issue and deliver individual notices pursuant to the Noxious Weed Control. Roll Call: All Ayes. Weed Superintendent Kevin Koziol discussed the Platte Valley Weed Management work on the river with the Board.

GPS equipment for roads: Carlson said the GPS equipment would tell what time a piece of equipment went down a road, what they were doing, and how many times it went down that road. Carlson had talked to Hamilton County about their GPS equipment. Highway Superintendent Meyer will try to get more information on the GPS equipment for the next Board meeting.

Arena ventilation: Tom Rathman and John Tomlinson with Nebraska Heating & Air went over putting ventilation in the new arena. Manning said their quote was \$57,000.00. Tomlinson went over the facts and designs with the Board. Moved Kucera, second Carlson to table any decision until later in the meeting after some research was done by Deputy County Attorney Kunz on purchasing. Roll Call: All Ayes.

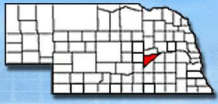
One & Six Year Road Plan: Highway Superintendent Meyer went over the One and Six Year Road Plan with the Township members present and the County Board.

RESOLUTION 2017-2: Moved Graves, second Carlson to approve and have the Chairman sign RESOLUTION 2017-2 for the signing of In-Call Environmental Service Agreement-BK1701 between Merrick County and Kirkham, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Janitor duties: Moved Kucera, second Graves to approve the updated janitor duties for the Merrick County Youth & Agriculture Education Center. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Six month report: Treasurer Bolte presented her six month report to the Board. Moved Graves, second Kreachbaum to approve the six month report from the Treasurer and have the Finance Committee sign it. Roll Call: All Ayes. Weller absent at 11:00 a.m.

4H Building Overseer Committee: Moved Kucera, second Kreachbaum to keep Kreachbaum and Wiegert on the 4H Building Overseer Committee. Roll Call: All Ayes.



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Security Committee: Moved Kucera, second Kreachbaum to keep Graves and Carlson on the Security Committee. Roll Call: All Ayes.

4H Building arena ventilation: Moved Graves, second Kucera to waive the bidding requirements of the County Purchasing Act for emergency purposes for ventilation in the 4H Building arena because of health and building. Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Carlson, second Kucera to accept the bid of \$57,000.00 for ventilation from Rathman Manning and Nebraska Heating and Air. Roll Call: Ayes: Helgoth, Graves, Carlson, Kucera, and Wiegert. Nays: Kreachbaum.

Independent audit: Helgoth would like to ask the Ag Society for an independent audit of the last three years because people have been wanting it done. Moved Helgoth to have the Ag Society do an independent audit for the last three years. Motion died for lack of second.

Executive session: Move Kucera, second Carlson to go into executive session at 11:53 a.m. for strategy session regarding threatened litigation. Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Kucera, second Graves to go out of executive session at 12:03 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Settlement agreement and release: Moved Kucera, second Graves to approve the settlement agreement and general release between Reiny Dickhaut and Merrick County. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Sheriff office and jail: Sheriff Westman told the Board he is running out of room and he welcomed any ideas they may have.

Wage resolution: Sheriff Westman would like to have the deputies removed from the resolution that was done in 2014 setting the wages for all elected officials and their deputies. This will be discussed further at the next Board meeting.

Courthouse security equipment: Sheriff Westman said they have two wands they are going to try out, some totes from the Clerk, and will just need rope, stands, and a table. The purchases will come out of the General Miscellaneous budget.

Statewide radio system: Sheriff Westman and his deputies really are impressed with the demos they have been allowed to try out. They are getting estimates now for feasibility. Westman said there is a high concern to consolidate among some of the Counties like Polk and Boone. They will need to do or get some feasibility studies on ways to do this. The Merrick County Board of Supervisors told Westman that they would like to see about keeping the dispatch here if there is any consolidation. Westman said they need to get the Sheriff's and County Boards under one roof at the meeting on February 3, 2017.

Graves said he would be unable to attend the NRD meeting about the ice jam and Helgoth said he would attend and Kreachbaum said he will try to attend.

January 2017 payroll: January 2017 payroll was presented for approval: General: Gross: \$127,333.96 Net: \$84,835.89 Roads: Gross: \$47,348.91 Net: \$33,306.13 Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$4,415.58 Net: \$3,154.53. Moved Kucera, second Graves to approve the January 2017 payroll as submitted. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Jail inspection will be done at the next Board meeting.

Adjourn: Moved Helgoth, second Carlson to adjourn at 1:03 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk